appeals must also fail. Cost, cost in the cause."

Any further action in the matter has to be taken in the light of the judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 23.7.1996.

Action Plan for Modernisation and Expansion of Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh

2774. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any action plan for modernisation and expansion of the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the works undertaken under the action plan, mill-wise; and

(c) the plan of the Central Government for the next year in this regard, State-wise, particularly in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The Action plan for modernisation and expansion of sugar mills is prepared and proposed by the mill authorities themselves. Assistance in this regard is provided from the Sugar Development Fund.

63 sugar mills have been granted loan assistance of Rs. 223.46 crores for modernisation and expansion from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

Discrepancies in the Records of Stocks of Foodgrains in Punjab

2775. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether stocks of foodgrains in punjab were found short to the tune of 1 million tonnes worth Rs.200 crores on physical verification as compared to the actual record of the Food Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken against the persons involved in the scheme; and

(d) whether Government plan to verify the records of other states in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Food Corporation of India has reported that at the time of annual physical verification ending March, 1996 certain shortage in respect of Corporation's stocks in Punjab were noticed, the details of which are given below:—

(Rs. crores)

Commodity	Shortages	Value
Wheat	97 MTs	0.01
Rice (Sub-standard)	607 MTs	0.46
Paddy (1994-95)	17,602 MTs	8.90

The shortages could be on account of negligence and malafide action on the part of FCI employees and rice millers for which departmental proceedings and criminal cases have been initiated respectively.

(d) FCI conducts quarterly physical verification of stocks.

Decision regarding mode of disinvestment of shares of PSUs

2776. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:
SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a policy decision regarding the mode of disinvestment of shares of Public Sector Units; and

(b) the new strategies chalked out to restructure the public sector units so as to make some of them global giants in order